

MINUTES OF THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMISSION MEETING

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The Williamson County Highway Commission met on Wednesday, August 1, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Williamson County Administrative Complex. Commission members present were: County Mayor and Highway Commission Chair Rogers Anderson; Commissioners Charlie Bennett, Dick Fowlkes, Renis Baker, and Stan Tyson.

Also, present were: Highway Superintendent Eddie Hood; Ann Haines, Planning Department; William Andrews, Engineering Department; Elaine Vasquez, Greg Boll, Randy Hickman and Ray Campbell, Highway Department; County Attorneys Bobby Cook and Jeff Moseley, Buerger, Moseley and Carson; Chad Collier, Collier Engineering; Mitch Kline, *The Tennessean*; and other interested and concerned individuals.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. and asked for approval of the July 3, 2007 Highway Commission minutes. Commissioner Baker moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Tyson. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Special Announcements: Chair Anderson stated the auditorium would be undergoing renovation during the months of December 2007 and January 2008 and that the Highway Commission meeting would be moved to the Conference Room across from the County Mayor's Office.

Citizens Communications: Mr. Philip Jones, 816 Turbridge Drive, Brentwood, stated that he was in attendance in regard to the Laurel Cove item under new business.

Elections and Appointments: There were none.

OLD BUSINESS:

Highway Department New Facility Update. Mr. Boll stated that the additional survey work had been completed for the site layout. They will go to the Franklin Planning Commission on August 14, 2007.

Mr. Boll presented slides from the work being done on the Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor's Center Road. Mr. Hood stated that the work has come a long way and should be finished within the next week. He complimented Mr. Allen Chrisman from the Highway Department and Mr. Wayne Tidwell, Foreman from Natchez Trace Association on their hard work and cooperative effort in making this project successful. Mr. Hood stated that to the best of his knowledge, this was the first time a county has worked with the Federal government on a project of this nature.

Determination of Need & Acceptance of Proposed Road Construction Plans (Attachment) in regard to Temple Road. Mr. Moseley gave an overview of the project to-date stating that no comments had been submitted on the construction plans by the five outstanding landowners of the property that had been in litigation. There was discussion about extensions that had been offered to the landowners to provide comment and concerns regarding the proposed construction plans prior to the original deadline. Mr. Collier stated that the proposed construction plans were basically the same as the previous ones with one minor change regarding the Covington property (moving a wall in).

Commissioner Tyson asked if any communication had been received from the five individual landowners that we could use to modify the plans. Mr. Collier responded that he had not received anything.

Supt. Hood stated that he was comfortable with the plans as presented.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the Commission adopt and ratify the following statement of purpose for the Temple Road Project: "After review and discussion concerning the road construction plan for Temple Road, the Highway Commission finds that the project is necessary and for the public good and that the plans reflect proposed work that is appropriate to effectuate the improvements needed for Temple Road. The Commission also finds it necessary to seek acquisition of certain private property on Temple Road, as described in the plans, in order to effectuate the improvements." This motion was seconded by Commissioner Fowlkes. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

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In consideration of the previous findings, Commissioner Tyson moved to accept the Temple Road construction plans as presented, seconded by Commissioner Fowlkes. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the Highway Commission make a finding that the acquisition of certain property owned by Thomas Morales and wife Katherine Morales, as described in the Temple Road construction plans, is necessary for completion of the project, seconded by Commissioner Baker. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the Highway Commission make a finding that the acquisition of certain property owned by Chris Morris and wife Teresa Morris, as described in the Temple Road constructions plans, is necessary for the completion of the project, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the Highway Commission make a finding that the acquisition of certain property owned by Pamela Rose, as described in the Temple Road construction plans, is necessary for completion of the project, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the Highway Commission make a finding that the acquisition of certain property owned by Richard Jett, as described in the Temple Road construction plans, is necessary for the completion of the project, seconded by Commissioner Baker. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the Highway Commission make a finding that the acquisition of certain property owned by Covington Partners, L.P., as described in the Temple Road construction plans, is necessary for completion of the project, seconded by Commissioner Fowlkes. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that appraisals be obtained on the parcels previously deemed necessary, as described on the Temple Road construction plans and that said appraisals be obtained from appraisers meeting the qualification of T.C.A. 29-17-1004, seconded by Commissioner Baker. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Commissioner Tyson moved that the County Attorney be authorized to transmit letters to the owners of parcels of property deemed necessary to complete the Temple Road construction project seeking acquisition of the parcels by voluntary conveyance, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

There was discussion about the time frame after the letters are sent out and the next steps. Mr. Jeff Moseley stated that with the lag time of the appraisals, the letters (or the next step) should be by October 1st of this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request for Arno Road improvements for Laurel Cove Subdivision by Dale & Associates. Mr. Andrews gave an overview of this request stating that he had received a set of plans from the design engineer. Staff concerns include: 1) Crossings improved on blue line streams and that the appropriate ARAP State permits be obtained; 2) Concerns about the lane and shoulder widths based upon a letter from Mr. Steve Tocknell dated March 28, 2007 asking that recommendations be followed in the process of review; 3) Concerns about the pavement sections which are not shown; and 4) The County has not agreed to assist with the obtaining of easements or right-of-ways as referenced in the July 9, 2007 letter from the Planning Director. Further, Mr. Andrews deferred other questions regarding the plans to Mr. Chad Collier of Collier Engineering regarding the design of the road.

Mr. Collier stated that he agreed with Mr. Andrews's assessment of the situation and that right-of-ways were not typically acquired by other counties. Further, Mr. Collier stated that the culvert extension was outside of the right-of-way and that he had not seen hydraulic calculations for

heading of water issues. Mr. Collier stated that he had concerns about there being no paving or typical cross section shown, using matting with seed, graveling and tar and chipping the shoulders and the speed limit reduction request. Mr. Collier stated that he had issues with “K” values on the sharp curves and the moving of guardrail locations, anchors being in compliance with AASHTO and TDOT regulations, retaining wall issues and various other concerns.

Mr. Kevin Estes, Dale and Associates, 516 Heather Place, Nashville, TN 37204, stated that the current speed limit was higher than the current standards would allow and needs to be re-evaluated, as do many roads in the County. The question of cross sections not being shown was due to inexperience on his part as the cross sections and profiles are in the more detailed plans, he stated. While the shoulders are shown as gravel, tar and chip could be an option. The retaining wall issues are due to the steep slopes of the creek on one side of the road and the vertical slope on the other side of the road, he stated. Further, Mr. Estes stated that they would be willing to stabilize with separate seed and matting if desired and he would be glad to provide any additional documentation.

Mr. Jones, as the developer and part owner of Laurel Cove, stated that they have tried to do everything that staff and Mr. Tocknell requested and that more detailed plans are available. Further, Mr. Jones stated that they will address any issues regarding design that are needed. Mr. Jones stated that all the widening is occurring within the existing right-of-way except for the culverts. They have been in contact with the nearby owners and are in the process of obtaining the temporary construction easements. Mr. Jones stated that the 1000 acres in the southeastern corner of the County will have 820 new homes with a Greg Norman designed golf course and they want to be good neighbors. They would like to have a plan to go forward to the September meeting so grading can begin soon as the funds are committed by Lehman Brothers. As far as the speed limit issue, Mr. Jones stated that it could be dropped to a safe residential speed for the safety of all as it is now too fast and that all new lanes for egress and ingress into the property are on their side of the property.

Supt. Hood stated that it was his opinion that they need to see everything corrected on paper before any action can be taken in regards to acceptance of the plans.

There was discussion about the Tocknell letter and the road width standards.

Commissioner Tyson asked if a traffic light at the entrance to the development had been considered as 820 new homes could add an additional 2400 cars to the traffic flow.

Mr. Andrews stated that it had not been discussed.

Commissioner Tyson stated that the number of cars was a potential traffic problem not including the impact of the golf course.

Commissioner Bennett moved to defer action on the plans until staff can work out the details with the appropriate parties and bring back to the Commission in 30 to 60 days, seconded by Commissioner Tyson. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

District Reports: Commissioner Fowlkes stated that since the County side of Murray Lane has no shoulders, it may make the road look narrower. He would like to see a “fog” line painted on the outside edge so the road can be better seen to keep people from driving off the edge and to make it safer. There were no other district reports.

Commissioner Tyson stated that he received the opinion from Mr. Cook regarding road width, but had not had time to review it as yet.

Superintendent Report: Supt. Hood referenced the July 2007 Activity Report and stated that he could look into striping Murray Lane as per Commissioner Fowlkes’ request.

Chairman's Report: The chair had no report but reminded the Commission that the meeting location would change in December and January to the Conference Room across from the County Mayor’s Office.

Legal Issues: No closed session was needed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:25 a.m., upon duly made motion and second, as there was no further business.

/cb

Rogers C. Anderson
Chairman and County Mayor